I come to observe; I give thee warning on't.

TIM. I take no heed of thee ; thou art an Athenian ; therefore welcome: I myself would have no power[5]: pr'ythee, let my meat make thee silent.

APEM. I scorn thy meat; 'twould choke me, for
I should Ne'er flatter thee[7].—O you gods ! what a number

peril. I have not been able to find such a word in any Dictionary, nor is it reconcileable to etymology. I have therefore adopted an emendation made by Mr. Steevens. MALONE.

Apperil, the reading of the old editions, may be light, though no other instance of it has been, or possibly can be produced. It is, however, in actual use in the metropolis, at this day. KITS ON. I have restored the original text, because, as Mr. Gifford has observed, the word which they would discard, occurs more than once in Ben Jonson :

" Sir, I will bail you at mine own *apperil"*
Devilis an Ass, Giftbrd's edition, vol. v. p. 137. *' Faith, I will bail him at mine own *apperfL"*
*Magnetic Lady^* vol. vi, p. 117-" As you will answer it,at your *apperil."*
Tale of a Tub. vol. vi. p. 159.

BOSWELL.

[6] —I myself would have no POWER :] If this be the true reading, the sense is,—all Athenians are welcome to share my *fortune; I* would myself have no exclusive right or *power* in this house. Perhaps we might read,—* I myself would have no *poor.** I would have every Athenian consider himself as joint possessor of my fortune. JOHNSON.

I understand Timon's meaning to be: * I myself would have no power to make thee silent, but I wish thou would'st let my meat make thee silent/ Timon, like a polite landlord, disclaims *all power* over the meanest or most troublesome of his guests.

TYRWHITT.

These words refer to what follows, not to that which precedes. * I claim no extraordinary power in right of my being master of the house : I wish not by my commands to impose silence on any one; but though I myself do not enjoin you to silence, let my meat stop your mouth.' M AJL O NE .

7 I scorn thy meat; 'twould choke me, FOR I should
Ne'er flatter thee.] The meaning is,— I could not swallow tny meat, for I could not pay for it with flattery; and what was given me with an ill will would stick in my throat, JOHNSON.